



Using Swedish Household Exams and Parish Records, pt. 1

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The Swedish church records are an amazing resource for genealogy with a large amount of them accessible online. As long as you know what parish records to look in, you can follow your ancestor through their entire life. This presentation will show you how to:

Learn the research process by using:

- The household examination records
- Moving-in and out records
- The birth, marriage, and death records

If you do not know what parish your Swedish ancestors came from see the article: [Finding a Place of Origin in Sweden](#) in the FamilySearch Wiki through FamilySearch.org.

Access Swedish Parish Records

Let's start with how to access the parish records? Swedish parish records are available online through 4 providers. They are:

- **Arkiv Digital**

A private company that offers digital copies of the Swedish parish records. All images are in color. This is a subscription website (available at FamilySearch centers.) See: <http://www.arkivdigital.se/>

- **SVAR**

The publication division of the Swedish National Archives. This is a subscription website (available at the FHL and Riverton center.) Record images were scanned from microfilm. Images are in greyscale. See: <https://sok.riksarkivet.se/>

- **FamilySearch.org**

Free for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from any computer with internet access, or from any FamilySearch Center for the general public. Record images were scanned from microfilm. Images in greyscale. See: <https://familysearch.org/>

- **Ancestry.com**

A private company. The Swedish parish record images belong to the World Collection. This is a subscription website (available at FamilySearch centers.) Record images were scanned from microfilm. Images in greyscale. See: <http://www.ancestry.com/>

For more information about Swedish church records see the article "Sweden Church Records" in the FamilySearch Wiki at: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Sweden_Church_Records

After you know what parish that your ancestor lived in, and have chosen which provider to access the records, you are ready to start using the records.

The Research Process

The research process using Swedish parish records is:

Establish a place to look up a Household Examination records

Begin by establishing your ancestor in a Household Examination Record (Husförhörlängd.) To do this, you will need to know a time and place when your ancestor lived there (specifically the farm or village and a year.) The easiest way to do this is by finding an event such as a birth, marriage, death, or moving entry in the parish records. The place of residence is usually mentioned with these events in the entries. With the place of residence and a year, you are ready to look in the household examination records. Most household examination records are organized by locality. They usually have a place index with corresponding page numbers at the front or the back of the book.

Find your Ancestor in the Household Examination record

Start by choosing the household examination time period that you know the ancestor lived in. Find the place index in the front or back of the book. Look for the place that you know the person lived at and go to that page in the record. Search for your ancestor on all the pages associated to that locality.

Search Household Examinations (forward in time, or back in time)

After you find your ancestor in one household examination, the next step is to find them in another household examination, and so on. The goal is to follow your ancestor in the household examinations for their entire life span (if possible.) If your ancestor moved from one parish to another, you will need to use the parish moving-in or moving-out records as needed. As you search from one household examination to another, pay attention to name variations, dates, and places. Keep track of which ones you have looked at. It's recommended to save a copy of each record that you see in case you need to re-evaluate evidence later.

Verify the Birth, Marriage, and Death Information

After you have searched all available household examinations for an ancestor, the next step is to verify the birth, marriage, and death information. If you have followed your ancestor in the household examinations, you'll already know where the ancestor lived when the events took place.

Search the respective birth, marriage, or death record for the event you want to verify. Usually these books are organized chronologically, so search for the day, month, and year that you saw in the household examinations. Use the date recorded in the birth, marriage, or death records as the correct date of an event (the dates for these events in the household examination records might be wrong.)

Tips:

1. For further reading see the article "Sweden Household Examination Records (Husförhörlängder)" in the FamilySearch Wiki at:
https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Sweden_Household_Examination_Records
2. If there is no place index at the beginning or end of the Household Examination Record, check to see if another Household Examination in the same parish has an index. Then try the same general area in the book you need. Or, check another event (birth, marriage, death or move) to see if a different farm or village is listed. Or search page by page as the last resort.

Here are some key words for the record types mentioned in this handout:

English	Swedish
Birth and Christening	Födelse och dop
Engagement and Marriage	Lysning och vigsel
Death and Burial	Död och begravning
Household Examination	Husförhörlängd
Moving-in Record	Inflyttningslängd
Moving-out Record	Utflyttningslängd

To get help reading a record or identifying a next step try:

* Anbytarforum at: <http://aforum.genealogi.se/discus/>

* Rootsweb Boards for Sweden at: <http://boards.rootsweb.com/localities.scan-balt.sweden/mb.ashx>

* Facebook: do a search for the key words "Swedish Genealogy" to find public Facebook groups